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From: EPA Press Office
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Subject: EPA's Weekly Round-Up For 06/09/17

EPA's Weekly Round-Up

From discussing how President Trump's decision to leave the Paris Accord puts America First, to announcing brownfield grants and clearing out the chemical backlog it's been a successful week at the EPA.

NATIONAL NEWS ...

On ABC's This Week, Pruitt discussed how small businesses across the country are celebrating President Trump's decision to pull out of the Paris accord. "Well, when you look at, even The New York Times had an article, I think, within the last couple of days that talked about small business celebrating, euphoria with respect to the president's decision."

On Fox News Sunday, Pruitt explained how the U.S. is the energy technology leader of the world and that if China and India want to reduce their CO2 footprint, they should follow us. "If China and India want to reduce their CO2 footprint, they should learn from us," Pruitt told Fox News' Chris Wallace."

Administrator Scott Pruitt was on MSNBC's Morning Joe where he said the Paris Accord put our economy at a disadvantage. "When you look at what was agreed to in Paris, it put this country, our country at a disadvantage economically."

Breitbart reports that Pruitt was on SiriusXM radio where he said the Paris Accord would have driven more regulation through litigation. "Regulation through litigation, if you will, which, I think, is an abuse of executive authority, an abuse of the rulemaking process," Pruitt said."

The Huffington Post reports that President Trump's EPA is doing a good job at regulating new chemicals. "The Environmental Protection Agency plans by next month to clear its backlog of hundreds of new chemicals waiting to be deemed safe enough to sell to the public."

- **Additionally, Scientist Richard Denison penned an op-ed for the Environmental Defense Fund** saying the EPA has made enormous progress regarding the chemical backlog. "The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) yesterday updated its website to provide a current snapshot of the status of new chemical reviews it has been conducting under last year's amendments to the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA). The statistics show that, despite being faced immediately with a substantial increase in responsibilities and workload as

a result of the major changes made to TSCA, EPA has made enormous progress in implementing the new requirements.”

The Washington Free Beacon reports that the EPA is responding to inquiries from Senate EPW Committee in a timely manner. “The Environmental Protection Agency has responded to half of a Senate oversight committee’s information requests, undermining a top Democrat’s claim that he is blocking nominees because the agency has not answered his letters.”

- **Additionally, the Washington Examiner reports the EPA has been incredibly responsive to inquiries received for the Senate EPW Committee.** “Normally, that’s a perfectly reasonable way for the Senate to exercise oversight of a stonewalling administrative agency. Except that’s not happening. According to EPA records shared with the Washington Examiner, the agency has received 20 letters from Carper, responded to 10 already, and just mailed another Friday.”

The Daily Caller reports that the Trump Administration delayed one of the most expensive EPA regulations ever. “The Trump administration announced Tuesday evening it would delay the implementation of a smog rule that’s been called one of the costliest clean air regulations ever.”

- **Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell applauded the EPA’s move to delay this rule.** “I applaud Administrator Scott Pruitt for his decision to delay this Obama Administration issued regulation, which was finalized in October 2015.”
- **Additionally, members of the House Western Caucus praised the EPA for their action.** “When pristine national parks like the Grand Canyon, Yosemite and Rocky Mountain are in danger of being in nonattainment under the proposed Obama standard, there is a serious problem with the numbers,” said Chairman Paul Gosar. “I am glad to see common sense finally prevail at the EPA with the announcement that the agency is postponing and reevaluating the job-killing Ozone Rule promulgated by President Obama.”

TO THE STATES ...

In Georgia, the Atlanta Journal-Constitution reports that the EPA awards Atlanta with \$300,000 for the community-wide brownfield cleanup activity. “The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency recently selected the city of Atlanta to receive a brownfields revolving loan fund grant totaling \$300,000. This is in addition to the more than \$1.7 million in grant funding for community-wide brownfields assessment activities and cleanup planning that seven communities in Georgia were selected to receive on May 31.”

In Indiana, the Greensburg Daily News reports that the EPA has given \$475,000 for potential brownfield assessments. “The Southeastern Indiana Regional Planning Commission (SIRPC) will receive a \$475,000 grant to investigate environmental conditions at vacant and unused properties with redevelopment potential in the Greensburg industrial commercial district as well as other locations in the state, Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) officials said.”

In Texas, the Gilmer Mirror reports that students from Pearland received the President’s Environmental Youth Award. “Teenagers from Pearland, Katy and Houston, Texas, are

among the national winners of the 2016 U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the White House Council on Environmental Quality's President's Environmental Youth Award (PEYA)."

In Utah, [NPR Utah](#) reports that Pruitt is giving flexibility to comply with this regulation from the Obama Administration. "Federal regulators are giving states like Utah another year to sort out their ozone-pollution solutions. The U-S Environmental Protection Agency is extending a deadline for states that have been poised to write ozone cleanup plans. ... EPA's Pruitt said he wants more "flexibility" for communities struggling with ozone, and he's creating a task force to review the ozone limits set during the Obama administration."

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